

March 19, 2019

Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

**SUBJECT: Receive and File the Behavioral Health Advisory
Board's Fiscal Year 2017-18 Annual Report.**

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file the Behavioral Health Advisory Board's (BHAB) Fiscal Year (FY) 2017-18 Annual Report (Exhibit 1).

FISCAL/MANDATES IMPACT:

The proposed recommendation does not have a fiscal impact.

DISCUSSION:

The BHAB operates pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code section 5604, *et seq.* The duties of the BHAB include reviewing and evaluating the County's mental health needs and services as well as advising the Board of Supervisors and the Ventura County Behavioral Health Director on all aspects of the local mental health program. The BHAB is required, under the Welfare and Institutions Code and the BHAB Bylaws, to submit an annual report to the Board of Supervisors. The attached BHAB FY 2017-18 Annual Report provides an overview of the BHAB's objectives, activities, challenges, and accomplishments.

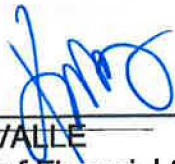
As detailed in the FY 2017-18 Annual Report, the BHAB has made significant progress in the following areas: (1) enhancing the manner in which the BHAB functions, formalizing the approach to decision making and making data-driven decisions (2) advocating to improve and expand behavioral health services, (3) monitoring the inpatient psychiatric bed shortage in Ventura County, the Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) certification, and the use of local community hospital emergency rooms for clients pending transfer to psychiatric beds, (4) integrating the work of the four BHAB committees into the work of the full board, (5) restructuring the format of the monthly general meetings to allow more time for board member discussions, especially on issues of concern to the members.

VCBH recommends that your Board receive and file the BHAB FY 2017-18 Annual Report.

This Board Letter has been reviewed by the County Executive Office, Auditor-Controller's Office, and County Counsel. If you have any questions regarding this item, please contact Sevet Johnson at (805) 981-1881.



SEVET JOHNSON PsyD
Behavioral Health Director



KARLA VALLE
HCA Chief Financial Officer



WILLIAM T. FOLEY
Health Care Agency Director

Attachments:

- Exhibit 1 – BHAB FY 2017-18 Annual Report
- Exhibit 2 – BHAB Annual Report Presentation